

# 2015

## ANNUAL REPORT





# LOOKING BACK

## OUR MISSION

PPFF's mission is to inspire stewardship of Pennsylvania's state parks and forests through public engagement in volunteerism, education, and recreation.

## OUR VISION

Building the voice for Pennsylvania's state parks and forests.



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Credit: Marci Mowery

Marci, Joe, and Izzy hiking the Tri-State Marker Trail.

### Thoughts on 2015

I couldn't say no! The invitation came to visit "THE Rock" in the Michaux State Forest, site of the famous photo of the Father of Pennsylvania Forestry. Neither could more than 100 people who joined the pilgrimage to the vista to recreate the famous image. It was a convivial day, including students from the Mont Alto Forestry Program, retired foresters and everyone in between, taking turns having their photo snapped. The compilation of images on the front cover of this annual report captures the past and future of forestry leaders in Pennsylvania. While he lived more than 100 years ago, Rothrock's influence still remains strong.

The 2015 theme for PPFF—*Looking Back to Move Ahead*—emblemizes this connection we retain to our past leaders and their influence on our state parks and forests today. We at PPFF believe our work—and that of volunteers—carries on that legacy of conservation, creating a state park and forest system we proudly present to our children, grandchildren, and generations to come. Thank you for being a part of the legacy.

*Yours in the Outdoors,  
Marci*



Credit: Friends of Milton State Park

The Friends of Milton State Park planted a demonstration native meadow at the park.

# to MOVE AHEAD



These are exciting times for DCNR. In my second year as secretary I am very proud to say the three pillars of our agency's mission — Stewardship, Partnership, and Service — remain standing very tall and straight. They rise on a solid foundation that is its dedicated employees and partners, all committed to protecting our public lands for the future of all Pennsylvanians.

We will continue to look toward PPF, our stalwart partner in conservation and recreation, as we branch out into new policies and programs that will best serve our constituents and make Pennsylvania a great place to live, work, and play.

PPF is a shining example of what a public-private partnership can accomplish, and we are embarking on six new initiatives that will enrich and broaden those achievements: Outdoor Recreation, Green Infrastructure and Sustainability, Forest Conservation and Jobs, Water, Climate Change, and Youth Engagement and Employment. You'll be hearing a lot more about these new efforts. Working together, our staff and PPF's cadre of dedicated volunteers, have accomplished so much in service of our mission to protect and enhance these wonderful lands entrusted to us. I look forward to another year of rewarding work with PPF.

*Cindy Adams Dunn*  
DCNR Secretary



*Cindy at Michaux State Forest with recent forestry graduates Quinn Frassetta and Aaron Lewis.*



*George and his family after the Charcoal Challenge at Pine Grove Furnace State Park.*

Most of us can remember a person older and wiser than ourselves who invested in us, in what we dream, in what we believe. They inspired us, made us better, and drew people to themselves for a shared higher purpose and vision.

Pennsylvanians have only to look back to find such leaders to motivate us to enjoy and invest in our parks and forests. Joseph Rothrock, Gifford Pinchot, Maurice Goddard, and Mira Lloyd Dock all realized the social, cultural, environmental, and health benefits of state owned land. I marvel at the extent to which we now freely enjoy millions of acres of forest, fields, lakes, and rivers due to their vision and effort.

This annual report reflects leadership that carries forth the legacy of our park and forest founding fathers and mothers. It's exemplified in the work of our friends groups enhancing their state parks and forests, to our annual award winners, and amazing staff and board of PPF. We work closely with the dedicated leadership in DCNR, some of whom, upon retirement, join our ranks as volunteers and board members.

We celebrate these visionaries, but our eyes are on the future. We appreciate every dollar of your donations and hour of your volunteer time that continues to make our parks and forests a natural treasure for generations of Pennsylvanians.

*George Asimos*  
Chair, Board of Directors

*"The greatest good, for the greatest number...in the long run."*

*~Gifford Pinchot*

Credit: Bill Sisson



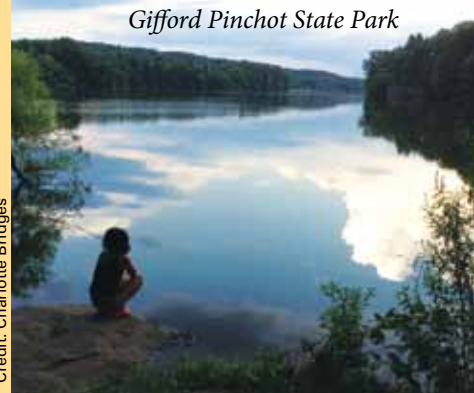
*A gorgeous fall day at Rothrock State Forest.*



# MEETING AND

When discussing our state parks and forests, the Environmental Amendment to the state constitution states that, “The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania’s public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustees of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all of the people.” (Section 27, Article 1, PA Constitution)

It’s hard to be a passionate voice for your state parks and forests if you are not ENGAGED with them. To this end, we constantly seek out new and innovative ways to interest all people in our state parks and forests—whether through social media, photography, informational meetings, volunteerism, or events.



Gifford Pinchot State Park

Credit: Charlotte Bridges

## ■ Photo Contest

Our annual photo contest continues to build momentum and popularity. We received over 350 photo entries in 2015. Using Facebook for voting and judging, more than 4000 FB friends “clicked in” their votes. Also new - we produced note cards featuring past winners.

Meanwhile, our 2014 winning photos were on display at the state capitol in February, followed by a legislative reception. The photos went on the road and were exhibited in Lancaster, Allegheny, Potter, Cumberland, and Franklin counties.



Capture the Seasons  
Pine Grove Furnace

Credit: Crystal Hunt



More than 60 enthusiastic staff and volunteers turned out for three separate trail workshops, where they learned how to assess and repair multi-use trails. Volunteers at Ohiopyle immediately put their skills to work, making improvements to the steps of the Jonathon Run Trail, while volunteers at Greenwood Furnace State Park are working to make connections between the trails of the park and the surrounding Rothrock State Forest.

## ■ YEP Summits

The average youth spends more than 7.5 hours a day in front of a screen. To turn that number on its head, PPF explored the idea of a ‘Youth Employment Program’ to attract disconnected youth to parks and forests through summer employment. After interviewing staff from 13 youth programs across the state about their organization models, PPF (through a grant from the Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds) held two youth employment summits to determine what kind of programming would address these concerns. The results of the study were presented to DCNR and they intend to embrace the concepts in future programming.



PPFF and Friends of Kings Gap sponsored a teen work crew to improve a trail at the park.

# GREETING YOU

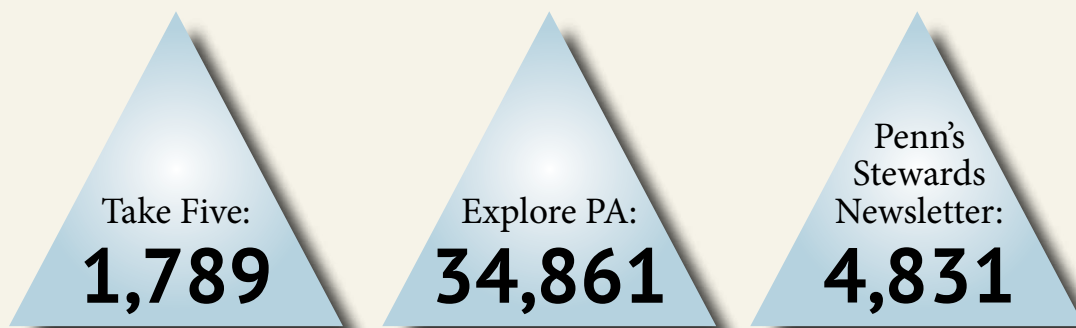


## By the NUMBERS

### SOCIAL MEDIA by the Numbers

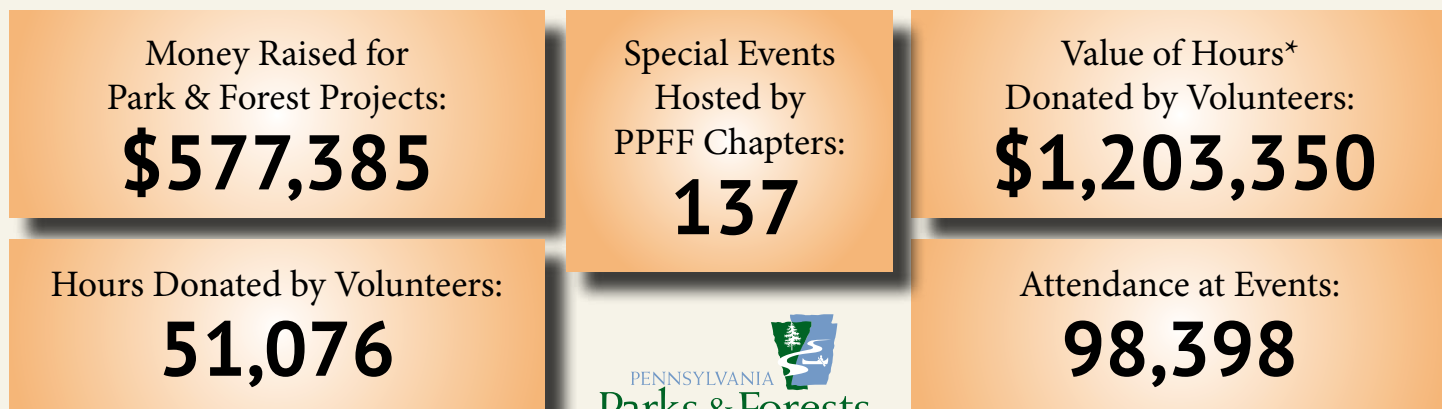


### NEWS SUBSCRIBERS by the Numbers



Programs and Presentations:  
We reached 3,100 people with our programs and exhibits which included 150 volunteers providing 1110 hours.

### FRIENDS by the Numbers



\*The Bureau of Labor Statistics put a value of \$23.56/hour on volunteer labor in 2015



# Feeling BETTER



Credit: Stephanie Deip

In 2015, we revisited our history of conservation and discussed the symbiotic relationship between conservation and health and how these issues changed how we think about our natural areas. From the Johnstown Flood through the Clean Water Act, there are no better lessons learned than those that impact health. And the “take away” for today? Everyone needs to get outside and recreate – you’ll feel better.

## ■ Accessibility—Yes!

Parks and forests became more accessible with your support and a grant from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and the Partnership for Better Health. Twelve people participated in a two-day training on ADA assessments, which was open to park and forest staff (including community parks), friends groups, and community volunteers. Volunteers then committed to assessing a minimum of one park in the study area (Cumberland and Franklin counties), successfully completing not only all state parks in the study area, but several community parks as well.



Credit: Pam Metzger



Credit: Marci Mowery



Credit: Nicholas Tonelli

Marion Brooks Natural Area

## ■ Barriers—No More!

Addressing needs of youth, seniors, and those with disabilities was given a boost with a grant from the Partnership for Better Health for a barriers summit. The summit invited those who DON'T participate in outdoor recreation to share with us what prevented their participation. We then created a barriers checklist which we shared with DCNR and our friends groups, as well as made available on our website.

POTENTIAL BARRIER
Transportation - A barrier to participation is the visitor's ability to come to the park or forest at all.
Is the park/forest or a public transportation route?
Is the park/forest accessible via bus or bicycle?
Is there a secure place to keep a bicycle during participation?
Are directions to park/forest easy to access?
Concessions or events
Time - A barrier for many is a work or school schedule.
Are programs offered during a wide variety of the year?
Comments or notes:
Awareness - A barrier to participation is the visitor's ability to find out where or when an event or program is being held or what your park or forest has to offer.
Are marketing materials or event announcements targeted?
Can marketing materials or event announcements be accessed through a TTY device or text to a cell phone?
Does the park or forest offer interpretive tours or opportunities to partner with the public with what is available or to understand rules?
Does the park advertise in a variety of ways (week of that apply)?
Other:
Do parking areas feature lights with large print or color contrast?
Restrooms
Handicapped
Phone calls
Large events
Trail announcements
Distribution of information to non-national audiences
Distribution through schools

## ■ 100 Icons of Summer

We asked and you shared! Throughout the summer of 2015, through social media channels, we highlighted the 100 Icons of Summer, nominated by you. Your submissions reflected what you saw after closing your eyes and then thinking of parks and forests. These symbols represented what makes our parks and forests award winning and demonstrated how they hold special places in our hearts and memories.

## ■ Wheels on the Road

Your generous contributions to our silent auction allowed for the purchase of two bikes—a recumbent and a hand crank—which makes cycling easier for those with a disability or balance issues. The bikes were presented to state parks in Region 2 for use in their public programming.

Credit: DCNR



# is... BETTER



## ■ Get Outdoors Pennsylvania Gains a New Flagship Partner

PPFF became a flagship partner with the Get Outdoors Pennsylvania Program (GOPA). Designed to engage the public in outdoor recreation, GOPA makes it easy to find outdoor recreational opportunities for users, while providing educational materials for providers.



Credit: Wendy Shust

Family fun at Colton Point.

*“During all these years  
there existed within me  
a tendency to follow  
Nature in her walks.”  
~John James Audubon*



Credit: Cody Ball

Catch of the day at Sinnemahoning State Park.

## ■ Engaging Across the Lifespan

This year, through the efforts of local legislative health fairs and groundwork laid in 2015, you'll see PPFF and our volunteers across the state, promoting active 'across the lifespan' lifestyles. Through a relationship with AARP, we offered presentations about our parks and forests at their local clubs. (Active in a club? Give us a call!) Look for our famous "Things to do Near YOU" for fun state park and forest activity ideas at any event we attend!



Credit: Gloria Benfer

## ■ SCORP

With your support, PPFF remains active in the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan Technical Advisory Committee. The Plan, which outlines recreational needs in Pennsylvania for the next five years, includes goals and tasks to improve recreation opportunities across Pennsylvania, while also ensuring a place for all to experience the outdoors. PPFF embraced the plan as part of its 2015 strategic planning process—look for ways in which we are tackling the tasks in 2016.





# BRINGING the

The summer 2015 newsletter focused on the history of conservation activism. Citizen groups always had a role in the history of conservation and protection of our public lands. At PPF, we believe it's important to understand the history of conservation in order to be a strong voice for our parks and forests today.

*Friends of the State Line Serpentine Barrens educating at the Chester County Senior Expo.*



Credit: Friends SLBB

## ■ Conservation Heritage Project

You connected Pennsylvanians to their conservation roots through the Conservation Heritage Project. Three documentaries were produced, one each on Mira Lloyd Dock, Gifford Pinchot and Ralph Abele. These documentaries aired on public television across the state, as well as local showings by friends and conservation groups. Grants from the William Penn Foundation and R.K. Mellon Foundation improved the conservation heritage website and produced compelling vignettes about the people, places, and events that shaped Pennsylvania's environment.



Credit: PA DEP

Mira Lloyd Dock



Credit: American Foresters Archive

Gifford Pinchot



Credit: Bureau of Forestry

Ralph Abele

View the documentaries at <http://video.witf.org/show/witf/>



Credit: Marci Mowery

## ■ South Mountain Partnership

The Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation became a member of the South Mountain Partnership, one of seven conservation landscapes across Pennsylvania. The South Mountain Conservation Landscape aims to encourage and promote the further appreciation and protection of the intrinsic geographic, geologic, biologic, natural, agricultural and heritage resources and values of the area and the important connection these have to the quality of life and place in the region.



# PAST to YOU



## ■ Benjamin Rush State Park

Visitors to Benjamin Rush State Park have a better understanding of the flora, fauna, and history of the park from your investment in education and funding from the McLean Contributionship. A series of five interpretive panels on the natural and cultural history of Benjamin Rush State Park can be found at the park—visit and look for them soon!



## ■ Friends and Conservation

At Pine Grove Furnace State Park, history is woven into the fabric of each day. But each October at Fall Furnace Fest it takes center stage with demonstrations of candle dipping, broom-making, DIY scarecrow construction and, as demonstrated here, at right, by Friends Chair Andre Weltman, the making of charcoal that fueled the furnace for which the park was named.



*Charcoal Making at Pine Grove Furnace State Park*

Credit: Friends of Pine Grove Furnace



*Paul Stillman as Franklin*

Like Pine Grove Furnace, M.K. Goddard State Park has a little bit of history as part of its DNA having been named for Maurice Goddard, the “Father of Pennsylvania’s state parks.” Each June since 2003, all eyes turn back even farther to life along Sandy Creek in the 1790s through 1840s. Pioneer Frolic brings craftsmen and women, musicians, and historical re-enactor Paul Stillman (as Ben Franklin). Paul says, “Most people think of history as dry subjects. Dull facts and dead people. I try to bring characters to life, so the audience can talk to an actual person.”

As the state park with arguably the largest number of Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) buildings in the system, Laurel Hill State Park takes its connection to their CCC Boys very seriously. With a small history display featuring the contributions of the CCC, to an annual celebration saluting their work, the Friends of Laurel Hill are making sure the Boys are not forgotten.



Credit: Marci Mowery

*“The decisions that we make today do not affect only ourselves. If they did, it would not be so hard to make them, as we would be willing to accept the consequences of our own actions.”*

*~Maurice “Doc” Goddard*



# Look BACK to See the

Our fall 2015 newsletter lead story, *'Look Back to See the Way Forward,'* focused on the history of our state parks and forests. It tells the story of the men and women behind the creation and continued evolution of our park and forest system. We are all a part of this continuing story of our parks and forests—whether we be a volunteer, an advocate, a friends member, a donor or recreationist—we all contribute a chapter to the story.

## ■ Stewards of Penn's Woods

Interested in getting involved, but time a constraint? In 2015, we invited everyone to consider becoming a steward at one of many forest sites across the state. Funded through a grant from Exelon, this program connects people to places to assist with clean-up and beautification at trail heads, boat launches, islands, vistas, and other interesting sites.

The program is designed for anyone from individuals to businesses—to get involved in being a steward of our natural resources. In exchange for a year commitment to steward a particular location, participants receive a t-shirt, gloves, bags and other necessary items to steward a special area. All stewards are recognized on our website and in our newsletter.



Credit: Marci Mowery



*Deputy Secretary Norbeck presenting at the annual friends retreat*

## ■ Friends Groups

Friends groups provide vital services in the parks and forests in which they are located. There are currently 39 traditional chapters of the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation, located across the state in both state parks and forests. There are also four associate groups—people who pull together for a particular park, forest or event, but who have not formed a board of directors. These associate groups are addressing needs—such as trail maintenance on the Laurel Highlands Hiking Trail or playgrounds at Pymatuning State Park.

Three friends groups were launched in 2015—Friends of Beltzville State Park, Friends of Caledonia State Park, and Friends of Buchanan State Forest (Sideling Hill and Martins Hill Tracts), all of whom hit the ground running or, in the case of the Friends of Beltzville, walking vigorously by forming a regular walking club (and kayak club to come later).

Credit: Jim Smith



*Friends of Buchanan organizational meeting*

Credit: Friends of Caledonia



*Friends of Caledonia Lincoln Highway Jubilee*

Credit: Friends of Beltzville



*Friends of Beltzville litter cleanup*

# way FORWARD

## PPFF Friends Groups

*Cherry Springs Dark Sky Association*  
*Friends of Beltzville*  
*Friends of Big Pocono*  
*Friends of Black Moshannon*  
*Friends of Buchanan*  
*Friends of Caledonia*  
*Friends of Canoe Creek*  
*Friends of Colonel Denning*  
*Friends of Cook Forest*  
*Friends of Cowans Gap*  
*Friends of Delaware/Promised Land*  
*Friends of Goddard*  
*Friends of Greenwood Furnace*  
*Friends of Keystone*  
*Friends of Kings Gap*  
*Friends of Laurel Hill*  
*Friends of Little Buffalo*  
*Friends of Lyman Run*  
*Friends of Milton*  
*Friends of Mont Alto*  
*Friends of Mt. Pisgah*  
*Friends of Nockamixon*  
*Friends of Nolde Forest*  
*Friends of Ohiopyle*  
*Friends of Oil Creek*  
*Friends of Parker Dam*  
*Friends of Pinchot*  
*Friends of Pine Grove Furnace*  
*Friends of Prince Gallitzin*  
*Friends of Ridley Creek*  
*Friends of Ryerson Station*  
*Friends of Shawnee*  
*Friends of Shikellamy*  
*Friends of State Line Serpentine Barrens*  
*Friends of Varden Conservation Area*  
*Friends of Weiser State Forest*  
*Friends of White Clay Creek*  
*Friends of Yellow Creek*  
*Laurel Mountain Volunteers*

## Where Mason and Dixon Tread

The Friends of White Clay Creek took the opportunity to look way back to the 1760s when Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon undertook the Herculean task of surveying the border between Pennsylvania and Maryland to end a boundary dispute between the Penn and Calvert families. Construction of the Tri-State Marker Trail to the place where Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Delaware meet brought together volunteers from all three states and gives visitors easy access to the marker with a four-mile loop trail, the second phase of which was completed in 2015.



Credit: Friends of White Clay Creek

## Come Sail Away

The lake at Yellow Creek offers beautiful sailing on its 720 acres and the Friends have undertaken restoration of the park's neglected "sailing base." Formed in 1976 through a partnership between the park and Indiana University of Pennsylvania, the sailing base lease expired in 2005 and the facilities began to deteriorate. Now, however, the FOYC are bringing new life to the shoreline and boat storage, and are offering sailing lessons and public programs as well as collegiate regattas in partnership with IUP.



Credit: Friends of Yellow Creek

## Preserving the Legacy While Protecting the Future

History's legacy is not always positive, as the Friends of Oil Creek understand more than most. Located in the place where oil was first commercially exploited, the park has borne witness to boom and bust since the 1850s and one by-product of the boom/bust cycle is an almost incomprehensible number of "orphaned" oil wells, long abandoned by their owners when the oil ran dry. The Friends work with the Venango PA Senior Environmental Corps and DEP to locate, flag, and (eventually) cap the abandoned and often dangerous holes in the ground.



Credit: Friends of Oil Creek

## Improved Website

While our new and improved website was launched in 2016, the legwork and planning for the site began in 2015. We knew we needed a better way to interact with park and forest enthusiasts—from providing materials for our friends groups to engaging users to become voices for our public lands. The website focuses on needs of parks and forests, ways to get engaged from volunteerism to financial support, and connects to our chapters.





# ENGAGEMENT

## Moving Ahead with Grateful Appreciation

In 2015, you helped us to set our sites for the next 5 years through our strategic planning process (funded in part by a NEEF grant.) Based on your input, we developed five overarching goals:

- **GOAL 1:** Expand the message on the value of and ways to engage in parks, forests, and recreation to increase participation, inform the public and decision makers, and build relationships with diverse partners.
- **GOAL 2:** Engage the public in meaningful outdoor recreation to improve physical, emotional, and mental health.
- **GOAL 3:** Increase volunteerism in Pennsylvania state parks and forests to 50 friends groups and 1200 PPF and Friends Chapter volunteers by 2020.
- **GOAL 4:** Invest in transformative projects and events to enhance the state park and forest visitor experience.
- **GOAL 5:** Strengthen the capacity of PPF and the friends chapters through strategic investment of time, talent, and revenue.



Credit: Carolyn Anderson

## ■ Art in the Parks

Nature inspires art, and several friends groups paid homage to this with different art related events. At Cowans Gap, participants were led by a professional painter through the steps of painting an image of the park.

At Shawnee State Park, nature inspired art was on display throughout the summer; and at Nolde Forest Environmental Education Center, the first student art contest proved to be most successful.



Credit: Friends of Cowans Gap



Credit: DCNR

*We are an approved Education Improvement Tax Credit Innovative Education Organization!*

*In 2015, 8470 students attended 241 programs funded through your support. This includes students like these, who attended the One Bird, Two Habitats Program.*



Credit: Marci Mowery

*Visitors to Keystone State Park discovered an updated pavilion complete with a full kitchen made possible by your support and a grant from the Katherine Mabis McKenna Foundation. The kitchen provides an opportunity to host educational events such as conservation school while also being available for large scale use such as for family reunions.*

PPFF organized a first public meeting to explore ideas for creating a gateway community, looking to connect parks and forests to the community. A marketing plan was developed and PPFF is working with the consultant to address the needs identified in the marketing plan, which include improved signage, maps, and increased information about parks and forests on local tourism websites.

# And the 2015 WINNERS Are...



## **Cliff Jones Keystone Legacy Award—Linda McKenna Boxx**

Linda McKenna Boxx's distinguished career includes public service positions in conservation, land use planning, the infancy of the rails-to-trails movement in Pennsylvania, and serving as a founding member of the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation.

## **Joseph Ibberson Government Award—Norm Lacasse**

Norman Lacasse is a tireless volunteer whose commitment to conservation spans multiple organizations and endeavors—from the PA Forest Fire Museum and Keystone Trails Association to founding member of the Capital Area Greenbelt Association and the PA Community Forestry Council.

## **President's Award—Deloitte Consulting LLP**

As an organization, Deloitte gives every employee the opportunity to help and improve his or her local community. Seizing this opportunity, Gail Bauer saw the potential to make an impact on Little Tincum Island, part of the William Penn Forest District, through an annual cleanup effort.

## **Park of the Year—Point State Park**

Point State Park is a 36-acre state park located at the confluence of the Allegheny, Monongahela, and Ohio rivers in Pittsburgh. On the forefront of natural, cultural and historic resource protection, the park has become a conservation and stewardship leader.

## **Forest of the Year—Buchanan State Forest**

Forest staff made many recent modifications to improve access and accommodate a wide range of recreational experiences. Wildlife habitat improvements in Buchanan led to increased golden wing warbler and ruffed grouse habitat.

## **Improvement Award—Warren Renninger**

Warren Renninger is a longtime park volunteer who commits great effort in the maintenance of the heavily used trails at Worlds End State Park. In 2014 alone, Warren volunteered 125.5 hours of strenuous labor to the improvement of the trail system.

## **Individual Volunteer Award—Helen Maurella**

Helen has been actively involved in growing the Nockamixon Friends group and finding innovative ways to raise money to fund projects. Helen has designed and distributed promotional brochures to draw participants for events she has not only obtained grants for, but also planned, coordinated, and personally staffed.

## **Group Volunteer Award—Nolde Forest Environmental Education Center**

Much of the view enjoyed by visitors today has been enhanced and improved by the work and contributions of the Friends of Nolde Forest. From mansion tours to habitat improvement, providing seed and bird feeders for migratory birds, this group is engaged.

## **Education Award—Friends of Black Moshannon**

A small, but dedicated group of volunteers, with 10-20 core group members, the friends are committed to offering exceptional educational programming at the park to attract people to Black Moshannon's unique natural resource.

## **Young Volunteer Award—Kayce Bobnar**

Seventeen-year old Kayce Bobnar is a highly dedicated volunteer who provided about 210 hours of community service at the Cook Forest Sawmill Art Center and Verna Leith Theatre in Cook Forest State Park in Cooksburg, Pennsylvania.



Credit: DCNR

**Park of the Year—Point State Park**



Credit: DCNR

**Forest of the Year—Buchanan State Forest**



Credit: DCNR

**Education Award—Friends of Black Moshannon**



# Appreciation of DONORS

**To all of our members and donors—we thank you for your commitment to our state parks and forests through the donation of time, talents and financial support.** With your support, barriers to participation in outdoor recreation were lowered while opportunities for participation rose. You educated visitors through interpretive signage, fishing derbies, hands-on programs, a connection to our conservation heritage, and a youth work crew. You were a voice for funding parks and forests through a protracted budget debate. And you helped improve the health and well-being of your fellow Pennsylvanians through quality outdoor recreation. We are proud to work with you and to call you our friend and donor.

## BUSINESS/CORPORATE DONORS

Stell Environmental  
 SAP America  
 Dominion  
 Dawood Engineering  
 Graphics and Design  
 Columbia Kettleworks  
 Saul Ewing  
 George Ely Associates  
 Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce  
 Penn Cumberland Garden Club  
 Mushroom Festival  
 Western Pennsylvania Conservancy  
 Snapple  
 Pennsylvania Recreation and Parks Society  
 South Mountain Partnership  
 Cumberland Valley Visitors Bureau  
 National Heritage Road Corridor  
 Pennsylvania American Water Company  
 Pennsylvania Cleanways

Laurel Highlands Visitor Bureau  
 Chesapeake Energy  
 Pennsylvania Forestry Association  
 Buchanan, Ingersoll and Rooney  
 Dwight Lewis Lumber Co., Inc.  
 UGI Corporation  
 Gecko Group  
 Stahl Sheaffer Engineering  
 Capital Area Greenbelt  
 Integrity Bank  
 Friends of Pine Grove Furnace State Park  
 Williams  
 South Penn Enduro Riders  
 Bass Pro Shops  
 Canoe Susquehanna  
 Exelon  
 Woolrich  
 Eddie Bauer

## FOUNDATIONS/GRANTS

Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds  
 Dockstadter  
 PNC  
 National Environmental Education Foundation  
 Provident Bank  
 Partnership for Better Health  
 Central PA Community Foundation  
 Allegheny Foundation  
 Rotary Altoona Sunrise  
 Valley Rural Electric  
 The Progress Fund  
 Lancaster County Community Foundation  
 Extraordinary Give  
 R. K. Mellon Foundation  
 William Penn Foundation  
 Exelon  
 Ronald McDonald House  
 Elk County Arts Council

## GOVERNMENT

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources



*Smokey Bear helped spread the word about wildfire safety at the Extraordinary Give in Lancaster. We'll be participating again in 2016!*



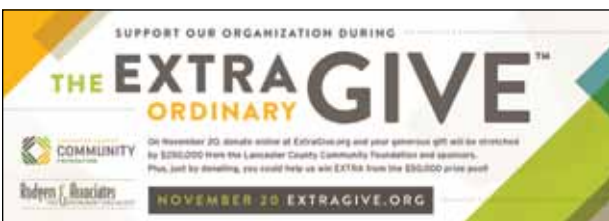
*Visitors to the Ohiopyle State Park section of the Great Allegheny Passage have more opportunities for resting and contemplating with the placement of new benches, generously supported by a donation from Wendy and Jim Homerosky.*



*PPFF Staff and Board Members*

Credit: Marci Mowery

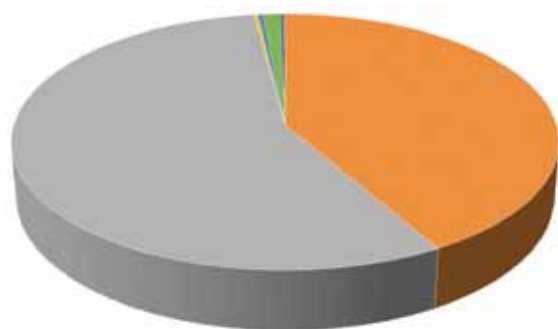
**STAFF:** Marci Mowery  
*President*  
 Lisa Salvatore  
*Bookkeeper*  
 Pam Metzger  
*Membership/Volunteer Coordinator*  
 Amanda Trimmer  
*Public Relations/Outreach Coordinator*  
 Beth Artz  
*Office Assistant*





# 2015 FINANCIALS

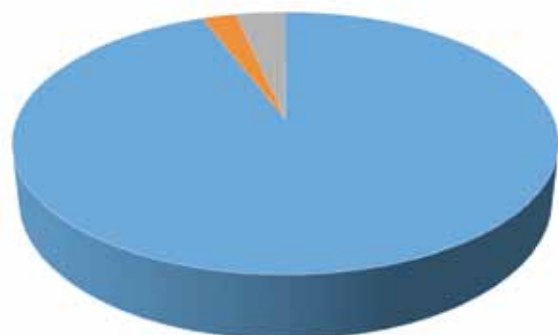
- Contributions
- Grants
- Friends Groups
- Passport Sales
- Project Administration
- Programs
- Investments
- Net Realized Gain
- Other



## Support and Revenue 2015 for PPF, Friends Groups, and Park/Forest Projects

- Contributions (restricted and unrestricted) ..... \$780,792
- Grant Income (project restricted)..... \$1,053,152
- Friends Group Fees..... \$4,128
- Passport Sales ..... \$6,654
- Project Administration ..... \$21,447
- Programs..... \$4,165
- Investment Income..... \$2,031
- Net Realized Gain on Stock..... \$16
- Other Revenue..... \$2,728
- **Total** ..... **\$1,875,113**

- Program Services
- Fundraising
- General and Administration



## EXPENSES

- Program Services ..... \$951,645
  - Friends Group
  - Park and Forest Needs List
  - Photo Contest
  - Stewards of Penn's Woods
  - Outreach/Education/Events
  - Constituent Programs
  - Conservation Heritage Project
  - Accessibility/Barriers Removal
- Fundraising..... \$24,407
- General and Administration ..... \$35,493
- **Total Expenses** ..... **\$1,011,545**

The complete audited financial statement for the year ending December 31, 2015 is available by contacting Marci Mowery at [mmowery-ppff@pa.net](mailto:mmowery-ppff@pa.net).

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## Volunteer Opportunities with the Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation

Did you know that volunteering is not only good for the organization for which you volunteer, it is also good for you? Volunteering reduces stress, eases depression, lowers blood pressure, builds confidence, and develops new skills—all while having fun!

**Is flexibility key?** Become a Stewards of Penn's Woods Volunteer and get to know a local destination in a state forest near you.

**Prefer to work with others?** Join or start a friends group to make a difference for visitors of all ages.

**Love to write?** Assist with writing stories for our publications and website.

**Prefer office work?** Visit our office in Camp Hill and assist with office tasks.

**Enjoy nature?** Become a Graffiti Buster and help remove graffiti from state parks and forests across the commonwealth.

**Enjoy the public?** Consider becoming an ambassador to table at events and support our outreach efforts.

**Politically motivated?** Work to educate legislators to emphasize the importance of our state lands.

**Have other special skills or expertise?** We provide annual training and workshops for our Friends and your skills as a community leader; in recruiting volunteers, raising money, or managing diverse personalities will help them help our parks and forests.



Keystone Lake at Keystone State Park  
Credit: Claire Kaczmarek